

Masses & Services Saturday 23rd November to Sunday 1st December 2024		
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE 24th Nov 2024		
Saturday 23rd	6.00pm	Graham Childs RIP (Vallance)
Sunday 24th	9.00am	Holy Souls RIP
	11.00am	Stanley Joyce RIP (Joyce)
Monday 25 th	9.15am	Pamela Magri RIP Anniv (Magri)
Tuesday 26 th	9.15am	Lily McAdam RIP (McAdam)
Wed 27 th	12 Noon	Thecla Floor RIP Anniv (Sr Susan)
Thursday 28 th	NO MASS	
Friday 29 th	12 Noon	Lady Russell RIP Anniv (Hoare)
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Year C 1st Dec 2024		
Saturday 30th	6.00pm	Intentions of Frank Mulligan
Sunday 1st	9.00am	People of our Parish
Dec 2024	11.00am	Intentions of Elaine Hudgell (Scannell)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 5.15pm-5.45pm.

ROSARY: Prayed after Mass Monday, Tuesday, Friday and before Mass on Wednesday.

HOSPITAL: If you are going into hospital this week for surgery Fr Martin will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick after all weekend Masses.

DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD WEBSITE:
<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/>

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous offerings. Last week you gave £166 in Envelopes and £314.20 in Loose Plate. You can give donations to the Priest's House and online for our parish or charities our parish supports at:
www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping//////////

IN CASES OF EMERGENCY: Father Martin will usually have his day off on Thursdays. In cases of emergency please call one of the local parishes, either St Edmund's, Loughton – Tel: 0208 5089438, Holy Cross, Harlow – Tel 01279 425776 or The Assumption, Harlow – Tel 01279 429388. This would also apply if Fr Martin is on holiday.

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL: “St Michael the Archangel, defend us in this day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.”

MISSIO BOXES: At present we do not have a parish co-ordinator for the Missio (red) boxes. Please let Fr Martin or the Parish Office know if you are able to help.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher Tel: 01992 572516
Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173
Parish Administrator : Mrs Margaret Lechley
Email: epping@brcdt.org
Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk
Registered Charity Number: 234092
Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohang
Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

24th November 2024

The Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, brings the Church's year to a close, and calls us to celebrate again Jesus's victory over suffering and death. As servants, we offer all that we are, and invite him to reign within our hearts, so that we can play our part in bringing God's truth, love, justice and peace to the world.

Foretelling the coming of Jesus, the First Reading describes Daniel's vision of a 'son of man' coming on the clouds of heaven to be crowned King, with everlasting sovereignty, ruling over an empire that will never be destroyed. Such is his glory that people of all nations and languages become his servants.

The Psalm rejoices in the glory of the Lord – the king with majesty enrobed. Through the verses, we are told of the eternal nature of the Lord's power and the trust we can place in him.

Again in the Second Reading, Jesus is described as coming on the clouds and as ruler of the kings of the earth. The depth of his love for us has been shown by his sacrifice on the cross, and brings us ever closer to the God who is, who was, and who is to come.

In the Gospel, we witness the scene in which Pilate asks Jesus the question, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' In his reply, Jesus speaks of a kingdom in which those who seek the truth listen to his voice and follow his ways.

This week, we ask God for the grace to open our hearts and minds to the needs of those who do not yet know his voice. We pray that by the service of our lives we will draw others to his loving embrace.

'Mine is not a kingdom of this world'

THIS Sunday, 24th November, is **WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY** There will be a second collection to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service

ASSISTED DYING BILL PETITION: We have received a thoughtful reply from Dr Neil Hudson, MP for Epping Forest, in response to our recent parish petition. Copies of the letter are available at the back of the church and on the noticeboard in the porch.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2025: The next session for the children is on **Saturday 14th December** at 4.30pm, when they will be preparing and planning for the Christmas Eve Mass.

PRAYER PARTNERS: We are seeking just two more parishioners to become Prayer Partners with our First Holy Communion group. Please speak to Fr Martin if you would like to help. Many thanks to those parishioners who have already offered.

ADVENT BEGINS NEXT WEEK: Please take and use the following during Advent:
ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CALENDAR for children with a thought for each day
MY DAY BY DAY FOR INFANTS: preparing for Christ's birth at Christmas
MY DAY BY DAY FOR JUNIORS: preparing for Christ's birth at Christmas
WALK WITH ME FOR ADULTS - A journey of prayer for Advent
All of these are being given out free by our parish though you can make donations to cover their costs in the book slot of the box at the back of the church.

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES IN OUR PARISH:

CHRISTMAS EVE - Tuesday 24th December

Mass at 6.00pm, preceded by Carols at 5.30pm and Mass at 9.00pm (Midnight Mass)

CHRISTMAS DAY – Wednesday 25th December

Masses at 9.00am and 11.00am

St Stephen's Day - Mass 10.00am

CALLING ALL SINGERS! “If anyone is interested in singing some of the Christmas Carol Descants at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve, please contact me and we can have a couple of quick rehearsals beforehand at a convenient date and time. All ages welcome - the more the merrier! Belinda (organist - Saturday evenings).07800 902910.”

HELP NEEDED: As we are currently without a parish caretaker, Fr Martin would appreciate the help of volunteers with routine tasks such as putting out the bins each week and any odd jobs around the parish. Please let him know if you can help! Many thanks.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME, IN HOSPITAL & CARE HOMES:

Lord Jesus Christ, our Most Holy Redeemer, by the grace of your Holy Spirit, grant comfort and healing to all who suffer in mind, body or spirit. holy people. Through Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

ANNIVERSARIES: John Elliott (24/11), Bobby Dew (25/11), John Dorkin, Deborah Byrne, Fr Anthony Robson, Deborah Byrne, Lorraine Giblin (26/11), Michelle Moore, Georgie Sparks, Gladys Parello, Nancy Hellen (27/11), Arthur McEvoy. Pamela Magri (28/11), Joan Russell (29/11). **Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.**

EPHING CHORUS next concert is on **Friday 13th December** at St John's Church at 7.30pm. The main work is Vivaldi's Gloria. Admission £10.

WEST ESSEX MIND & SPIRIT NETWORKING LUNCH 'HOMELESSNESS IN EPPING FOREST & HARLOW'

You are invited to a free buffet lunch **NEXT Tuesday, 26th November 2024**, 12pm- 1.30pm in the Conference Room, The Laurels, St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping. Guest Speakers are Jo Barclay (Senior Homelessness officer for EFDC) and a Harlow Council Housing Services rep. Numbers are limited so please book asap by emailing: westessexmindandspirit@gmail.com, paul.walker15@nhs.net or janewalters2003@hotmail.com.

MESSAGE FROM EPPING FOREST FOODBANK “With Christmas fast approaching we are committed to making this festive season special for those facing hardship, and we once again seek support for our annual Christmas food drive. December is usually our busiest month of the year, and we think this year will be the same. **The items we urgently need are: Milk (UHT/powdered), long life fruit juice, tinned soup, pasta sauce, sponge pudding, tinned tomatoes, vegetables, meat/fish, tinned fruit, rice, pasta, tea bags, coffee, cereals, jam, biscuits, toiletries, nappies, washing up liquid, dog and cat food.** Every contribution, no matter how small, can make a significant difference to the lives of local families struggling during this festive season. Together we can help make the Christmas experience special for those in need within our community.”

EPHING FOREST CHRISTMAS GIVING: Gift a local child a present this year. Epping Forest District Council is seeking kind donations from residents and businesses to see that no local child goes without a Christmas present this year. **Please see poster in church porch for further details.**

WALSINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 25/26: applications are now open for the volunteer retreat team at Walsingham House. If you are in Yr13 or finishing university and enjoy working with young people then a year on the retreat team could be the perfect next step. Live and work as part of a young Catholic Christian community, sharing your faith and helping to run retreats for the young people of Brentwood diocese. For more information then please see the website: www.bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/ or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE:

God of peace,
Whose son Jesus Christ taught us
To love our neighbour as ourselves
Give your strength to the people of Ukraine.
Give your wisdom to the leaders of the world.
Give your love to all of us who pray for peace –
Peace that will transform,
Peace that will heal,
Peace that will last.
For the sake of the same Jesus Christ.
The Prince of Peace, Amen